2/A 8-15-98 M.L.

Docket No. 3178-4033US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

Jay S. Walker, Bruce Schneier,

and James A. Jorasch

Prior Application

CONTINUATION OF SERIAL NO.:

08/685,706

GROUP ART UNIT: 3642 EXAMINER: Cain, D.

FILED

July 8, 1998

FOR

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR A CRYPTOGRAPHICALLY ASSISTED COMMERCIAL NETWORK SYSTEM DESIGNED TO

FACILITATE AND SUPPORT EXPERT-BASED COMMERCE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the instant application, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 19-66, 68-112 and 114-176 without prejudice or disclaimer.

In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate examination in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the number provided.